(*f*).—Exploitation of Minor Forest Produce.

(1).—*Extraction of Fodder.*

89. Wherever there was a demand the grass of the reserves was sold standing and removed by the purchasers throughout the Circle, but the demand for the cut fodder from forest is nowhere great and the whole revenue from this source was only Rs. 19,677.

(2).—*Grazing.*

90. No trustworthy statistics of cattle grazed free and on payment of fee are available, nor can be until the grazing rules are made uniformly applicable to the whole Circle. The Divisional Forest Officers of East and West Thána agree in reporting that concessions of free grazing are too freely made by village officers, and even where the rules are in force they are too liberally construed. The result is a paltry revenue of Rs. 8,979 for the whole Circle and of Rs. 4,224 only for the two Thána divisions. The value of the revenue conceded it is impossible to calculate, but the amount mentioned in paragraph 145 of last year's report is certainly not an exaggeration.

(3).—*Miscellaneous Produce.*

91. The miscellaneous products exploited for sale from the forests of the Northern Circle are of no great moment. There is a little hirda (Terminalia chebula) in East Thána; but the concession of the right to hirda in occupied lands makes its exploitation most difficult owing to the facilities for theft thus caused. Hirda has been hitherto collected departmentally, but this year the farm was sold.

92. There is a certain demand in Bombay for leaves of apta (Bauhinia racemosa) for smoking and of Borassus flabelliformis for thatching, and these were farmed in the two Thána divisions. The collection of moho (Bassia latifolia) flowers is farmed in the Surat Division and the revenue may develope, but is small at present.

CHAPTER III.

GROSS YIELD AND OUTTURN OF FOREST PRODUCE.

DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS.

93. Timber and firewood was worked out during the year as follows :—

No.	Division.	Year.	In Cubic Feet.	
			Timber.	Firewood.
1	East Thána	1892-93	32,550	20,376
		1893-94	3,351	1,106
2	West Thána	1892-93	1,245	4,714
		1893-94	2,423	9,255
3	Surat...	1892-93	77,685	.....
		1893-94	62,523	.....
4	Panch Mahals	1892-93	4,070	10,700
		1893-94	3,710	11,375
	Total ...	1892-93	1,15,550	35,790
		1893-94	72,007	21,736

94. The chief difference from last year is in Thána where it was only found necessary to work one coupe departmentally owing to the satisfactory sale of the remainder.